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# Dutch to Darling, 7 September 1954

Margaret (Dutch) Silver

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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Tuesday Noon

Darling,

This morning I got a wonderful letter from a wonderful guy. Made the present much more bearable and the future something to look forward to - in spite of Alice's dire predictions. This fellow is really a grand person - not too bright sometimes maybe (I have proof of that - he married me!) and a bit on the stultum side (probably self-defence) but otherwise a real person - and not too many folks deserve that term. Could he be a little prejudiced - I love him - but then a lot of folks seem to agree with me. And never for a minute have I ever thought he was - him - if I did, how could I possibly be disappointed in him? I've known his good qualities for years - and have only been unhappy when - for some reason or other - he has covered them up and tried to prove himself otherwise. There's a lot I don't know about him - some things I never will - but guess that's the case with all couples. I do know that I'll never sit calmly by while some female tries to take him away from me - or acts in such a manner that it could cost him his job, reputation and all that's been accomplished in over 18 years. That's the one point I'll never agree on - when or if such danger exists - but I know damn well I'll always react the same way. If I don't, you can be damn sure I'm no longer in love with,



or even interested in, the guy in question. Maybe with the use of a little common sense and mutual understanding, such situations can be avoided - I hope so. No marriage can withstand too much of that type misunderstanding. And it isn't really so hard to tell someone who loves you what's on your mind - not if you know they will try to understand. I know I'm quick-tempered and quick to snap judgments - but I have tried to learn to admit when I'm wrong. And it's only when I don't know what's going on or feel that I'm being kept on the outside that I build things up out of proportion and let my emotions run away with my better judgment. Guess my size is again me. Folks seem to think I'm self-sufficient and sure of myself. I on not and never have been. I've always wanted someone to talk to, to decide things for me, and to take worries - real or imagined - off me. Guess I've been scared half my life - about one thing or another. Ah well - we all have our problems.

To finish the reference to Brasfield - once and for all - I didn't mean that there was a similarity to any great extent. Just that part about telling folks ~~that~~ you & your wife not having much in common. I certainly never dreamed that you would go into any intimate details. I wouldn't have stayed here (tho' heaven only knows when I would have gone) if I had even thought such a thing. There have been a couple of women - not our friends to be sure - that have let me know that you had - shall we say - given them that impression. I'll never tell you about it. But knowing, my pet hates as you do - it shouldn't be too hard for you to figure out who they are. I'll try to forget ~~these~~ those folks and not get myself so on the defensive. Certainly they shouldn't be important to me. All I need is enough faith in us - then no one can get under my skin.



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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

George got the stuff off to you this morning - I went over to see Nancy and had her type a copy of the song to send you. There weren't any good copies on hand. Williams got out of town again before I could get over there - 10 o'clock - but Coulter was back. You have permission to miss faculty meeting, if you want to. The operator changed the charges to your phone. I enjoyed hearing your voice but the connection was so poor I wasn't too sure of anything you said. You seemed to hear me all right but was hard for me to understand you at all. Billy's birth certificate came so I'm meeting him right after school to go get his driver's license. He is having trouble with his ear and has to go to Chet once a day for shots. So far doesn't seem to feel very bad. This is their quiet gull day of school. Betty is quite excited about it all. She was pleased to get your letter that came this morning. I have spent several days trying to get a passport for Estelle. Bill is going - paid Nancy girl to type 1 1/2 hours for him so she was happy. We've got Estelle in the hospital - since Sunday - and she's much much better. She doesn't have a birth certificate so this afternoon I'm taking Dot and a notary to get affidavits from several of the old folks in town. I took her last Friday - tight as a tick - down to fill out forms and have her passport picture made. You should have seen me



almost carrying her up the post office steps with every body in town watching. Alice has to go to Memphis to have the baby. Looks like may be a Caesarian. Jill & Paul left Sunday - Bill leaves Thursday - thank goodness. Belvin Estelle will be all right once his gone. An still gonna make a million on that book one of these days.

Max's mother just called & asked us to a buffet supper for Big next Sunday. Told her we was sorry we couldn't come - that if you was home the Smiths would be here. By the way, we have to take Nail to Memphis next Monday. Guess I could manage with Thane if you decide to stay up there.

Nail & I went over to the Carbons after you called to take the tapes to George - stayed for a cup of coffee. Don't know what I would have done without them. Mags calls every nite to be sure we are all right. Saw the Warrens in the post office this morning. Told Katherine you had tried to reach her about that job. She said they could come look for her - was OK with me.

Alice & M.R. asked me to go to Memphis with them today. Wish I could have but had to attend to this stuff for Estelle. Want to go out to Sears Monday to get several things.

Hi, called this morning, about some guy who wanted to take his correspondence exam - told him to see Nancy at the office after 9:30.

Must good Nail then go do a lot of things. Won't write again unless you decide to stay on there.

I love you  
Dutch